= *Lechea tripetala* (Moç. & Sessé ex Dun.) Britt. Bull. Torrey Club 21: 252. 1894.

Horanthes tripetala attributed by Merrill (Ind. Raf. 169. 1949.) to Raf., New Fl. N. Am. 3: 30. 1836 [1838]. who under the genus *Anthelis* and subg. *Horanthes* merely indicates that "*H. tripetala* of Mexico is probably a Lechea!" The "H." doubtless stood for *Helianthemum* and referred to the publication of Dunal cited above.

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY, DUKE UNIVERSITY
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

THE EXTENDED DISTRIBUTION OF ERAGROSTIS TRACYI FROM SANIBEL ISLAND, FLORIDA[1]

A. S. Hitchcock in 1934 (1), based the description of *Eragrostis tracyi* on specimens of S. M. Tracy (no. 7168) collected on Sanibel Island, Florida, 1901. This endemic of narrow distribution was collected again from the type locality by George R. Cooley (no. 2608) (1954) (2). Since its discovery by Tracy in 1900, a period of 64 years, the species has been known only from Sanibel Island (3).

In 1964, the species was twice encountered in other localities. The 20th of April, collection no. 27403 was made on Mound Key, Estero Bay, Lee Co., only about 15 mi. southeast of Sanibel. Two pinkish plants 5 cm. tall, with basal branches and spreading panicles were growing in dry, compacted soil of the wooded trailside on the top of the Mound. They were the only ones available; pressure of time prevented wider search.

The 6th of October a population was found on Longboat Key, Sarasota Co., about 60 mi. north of Sanibel; collection no. 27566. It is established on a low terrace of the Gulf of Mexico on an extensive shell-beach with a remarkable association of *Sabal palmetto*, *Agave decipiens* and *Juniperus silicicola*. Frequency and size of the shrubs in the undergrowth give the appearance of a primary condition, or at

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[1]Contribution 19, Botanical Laboratories, University of South Florida.

least absence of recent disturbance. Conspicuous elements are *Yucca aloifolia*, *Harrisia Aboriginum*, *Opuntia Dillenii*, *Rapanea guianensis*, *Randia aculeata*, and *Forestiera porulosa*.

In the strand vegetation *Eragrostis tracyi* was spotted by its panicles among *Sporobolus virginicus*, *Sesuvium portulacastrum*, *Flaveria floridana* and *Amaranthus australis*. This habitat presents a sharp contrast to that of the bare, disturbed soils of Sanibel Island. However, strand vegetation is subject to disturbance by various factors. The 10th of February the site was checked for signs of perennial growth for added information on the life duration of *Eragrostis tracyi*. The grasses were prostrate and matted. With scattered debris it appeared as if the area had been flooded. Many tufts of *Eragrostis* were dead, but in others tips of new green leaves were visible among the old dead ones. Two tufts were potted in the greenhouse. The growth of new leaves continues and, obviously, *Eragrostis tracyi* perennates from underground parts.

OLGA LAKELA,
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA,
TAMPA

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p. 183 Fig. 1 is Plate 1311

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